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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

July 17, 1942

Lt. Col. John V. Grombach
Room 2641, Munitions Bldg.
Washington, D. C.


Dear Col. Grombach:

In reply to your July 15th letter to me and also in reference to your confidential memorandum of July 13th, copy of which you handed me yesterday. I did not know until I read this copy of Standard Operating Procedure #3 when I returned to my office that all the people who received copies were aware of the over-all planning as covered by your paragraphs 1 to 5 inclusive.

I, too, hope the No. 16 can be accomplished. As a step towards this end, I would prefer our meeting at the F.B.Q. plant on Monday morning just as we planned yesterday. The date will be July 20th. At that meeting we should cover as thoroughly as possible the suggestions in your July 15th letter; and, if the points cannot be completely covered on Monday, that further conferences be held at your convenience in Washington in order to comply with your own wishes and those of your Chief as stressed in that letter.

As I am very hard pressed on other matters and will be in New York Monday and Tuesday, I would like to be able to spend at least a greater part of Tuesday at the plant by myself in order to better assume my new responsibilities. As my own Chief is eager that I take hold immediately, I hope that this will meet with your approval.

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Lt. Col. Grombach

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On Monday we can go over the inventory that you are having prepared and which I gather will be completed for you by Friday, July 17th.

On Monday, too, all the things referred to in your next to last paragraph of your July 15th letter can be turned over to me as you suggest. The Intelligence Section Reports can be routed to me then also.

Coming home the other evening from the plant, you mentioned that there had been some criticism on the employment of your wife at Bellmore, and that she had taken the job as a special favor to you at a considerable salary cut. I believe that you will agree that her staying under the circumstances would be embarrassing to us both.

Unfortunately, a final decision on the matter of continuing with the construction of the Hollywood plant cannot be reached until I have further opportunity to consider a number of questions that are now requiring answers.

Sincerely,



Lawrence W. Lowman,
Major, AUS

LWL:rm